

IAA Student Profile: Symbolic Levels of Communication

Level 1: Awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students at the Awareness level may have no clear response, intent, or objective in communication. Students may or may not alert or respond to sensory input. They communicate by such means as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cries Postural shifting Limb movements Head movements Facial expressions Vocalization
Level 2: Pre Symbolic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students at the Pre-symbolic level demonstrate purposeful, intentional communication but do not yet use symbolic communication. <i>Beginning symbol use</i>: recognize pictures, but mostly need objects paired with photographs. They communicate by such means as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gestures (moving toward objects or people) Eye gaze (looking at objects or people) Purposeful moving to object Sounds
Level 3: Early Symbolic (Concrete)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students at the Early symbolic are beginning to use symbols for communication with limited vocabulary. <i>Forward moving with symbols</i>: recognize a small number of picture symbols and a larger number of known/ familiar objects and use these symbolically They communicate by such means as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Objects Tactile symbols Digital photographs Picture icons
Level 4: Symbolic (Abstract)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students at the Symbolic demonstrate knowledge of concepts through words and/or actions Speak with a vocabulary of words, signs, and pictures <i>Extensive use of symbols</i>: communicate by such means as: Speech; ASL; Dynamic Display Devices with extensive vocabulary They can read sight words and sentences with picture symbols, writes sight words and/ or circle pictures of vocabulary words
Level 5: Basic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students at the Basic level have early academic skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reads with some fluency and understanding Applies simple computational procedures to solve real-life or routine word problems <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does basic computation procedures with or without a calculator Able to follow directions with limited prompting/cues Would be a strong candidate for the future Modified Assessment